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# 日本现代工艺美术

1970

EXHIBITION  
OF  
MODERN DECORATIVE ARTS  
OF  
JAPAN

## Modern Decorative Arts of Japan

It is said that fine arts of Japan are characterized by the beauty of form and the harmony of spirit. It has also been said that the suggested world of tranquility created by their simple expressions is most superb. Certainly in the East, man has been a traditional principle in the life of the people to speak of themselves indirectly and unconcernedly through the intermediary of nature, and this principle appears to be the aesthetic consciousness inherent in the Japanese character.

Koetsu Hon'ami, who is regarded in Japan as the greatest artist of the 16th century, manufactured a gold-lacquered writing box bearing a design of floating pontoons and a bridge. The Japanese people do not look at this simple but elegant object of art merely as a writing box for use but though it they come in contact with the artist's intellect and his noble character, and they marvel at his existence as an intermediary for their appreciation of beauty.

In short, the principle characteristic of the decorative arts of Japan may be said to consist in this kind of spiritualism. Hence much value was attached to the producing of a single article at a time, from which one could feel the personality of its creator.

Today, the scientific trend of thought in the West has greatly improved the way of life, and there are articles in this line which are actively mass-produced by machinery. On the other hand, however, a renewed recognition of the decorative arts as product of high spiritual culture is becoming deeper, and this may be considered, as exigencies of the times, to be only natural.

It is not that in modern Japanese decorative arts, hand-work is highly appreciated for itself alone, or that it is maintained for only by racially nostalgic feelings. The decorative arts have the same artistic aim as painting and engraving, and there traditional techniques are now recognized as plastic means of reproducing modern beauty. As in the above instance, the works should represent the individual personality of the craftsman.

Of all the products of the Japanese decorative arts, here are the choicest works on exhibition. We shall be more than happy if they serve to assist the Australian public in recognizing and understanding modern Japan and contribute to the promotion of friendly relations between Japan and the Australia.

*Kakutaro Yamagaki*

President

Modern Decorative Arts of Japan

## *Guide to Visitors*

Since olden times, ceramics, for instance, has attained a high level of development, together with the tea ceremony and the art of flower arrangement. Pottery and porcelain formed in flames have a mysterious beauty, which is in perfect harmony with the spiritual life of the Japanese, and at the same time, the ceramic art is regarded as an appropriate means for modern artists to express their own thoughts. Naturally, great vigor is displayed in the creative activity of ceramists.

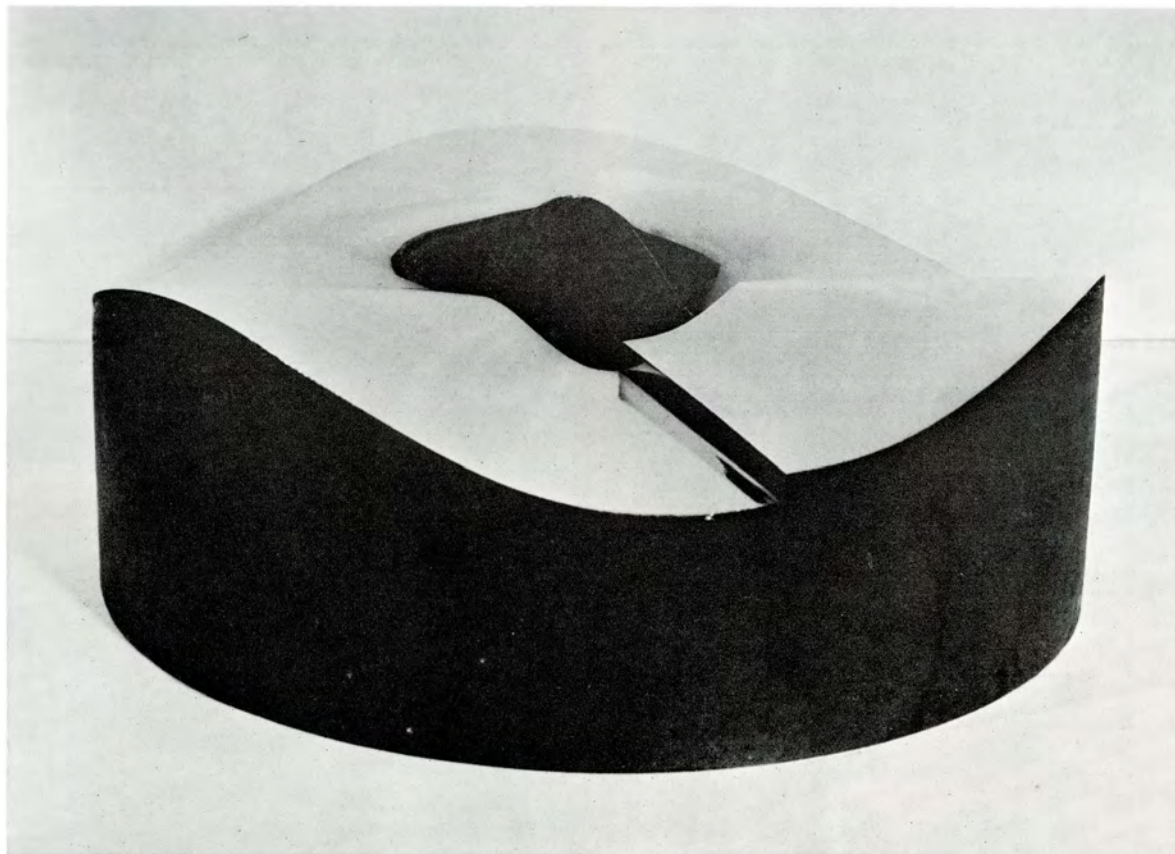
The technique of the lacquer art is unique to the East, where a paint made of the liquid tapped from the lacquer tree is used. The warm and humid climatic conditions of Japan seem to have promoted the development of this art. For lacquer ware, though and durable but elegant, there are various techniques of expression, such as gold or silver lacquer called "makie" and lacquer-carving or "choshitsu," the latter being a technique to express the beauty of its complicated material with a dignified appearance. The decorative effect of lacquer as a material is very valuable for the creation of modern beauty.

Metalwork has three different techniques. Casting is to pour melted metal into a mold, the technique for wrought metal is to form an object by beating a metal plate, and carving is to chase cast or wrought metal with a graver. By applying new interpretations to these techniques, and by taking part in modern architecture, metalworkers have recently been expanding their sphere of activity.

Dyeing and weaving are those decorative arts which most directly express what is characteristic of Japanese life. Here again, a modern formative sense has been permeating. Woodwork and bamboowork, for which abundant resources are available, have occupied an important position as branches of the decorative arts in Japan, and in the beauty of natural materials and in refined techniques is unostentatiously expressed the spirit characteristic of the Japanese. Glasswork also shows its national characteristics.

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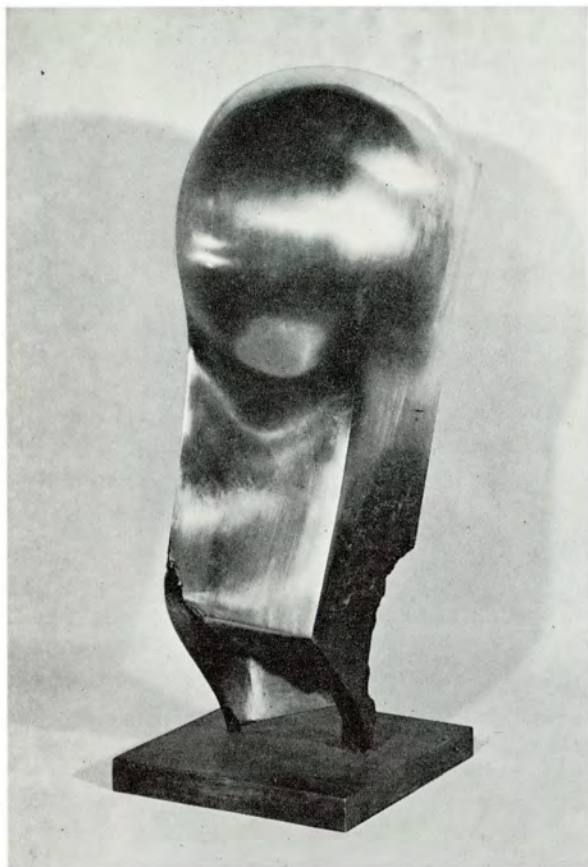


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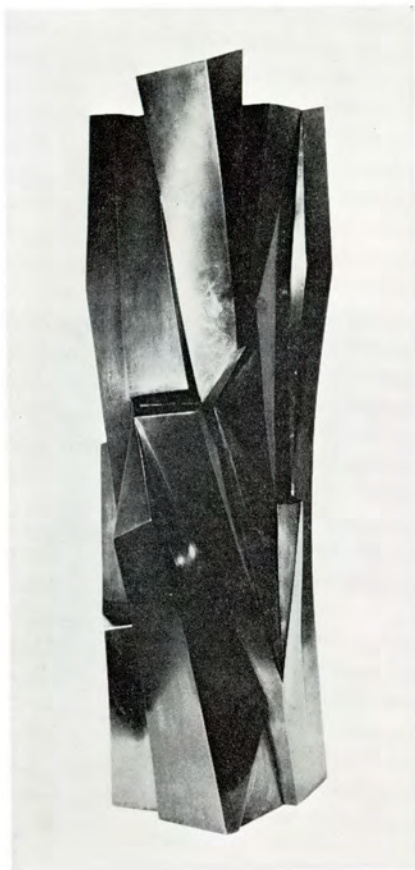
## Casting

1 Image of circle

SEKI Genji



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2 Satisfaction  
3 Casting Copper  
4 1/2

TSUJII Kenji  
KASAI Taizo  
HARA Masuo



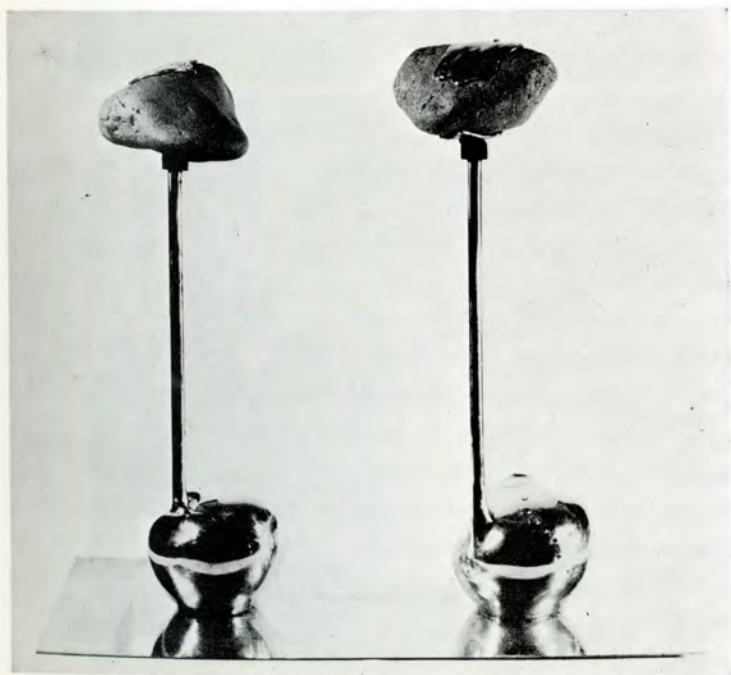
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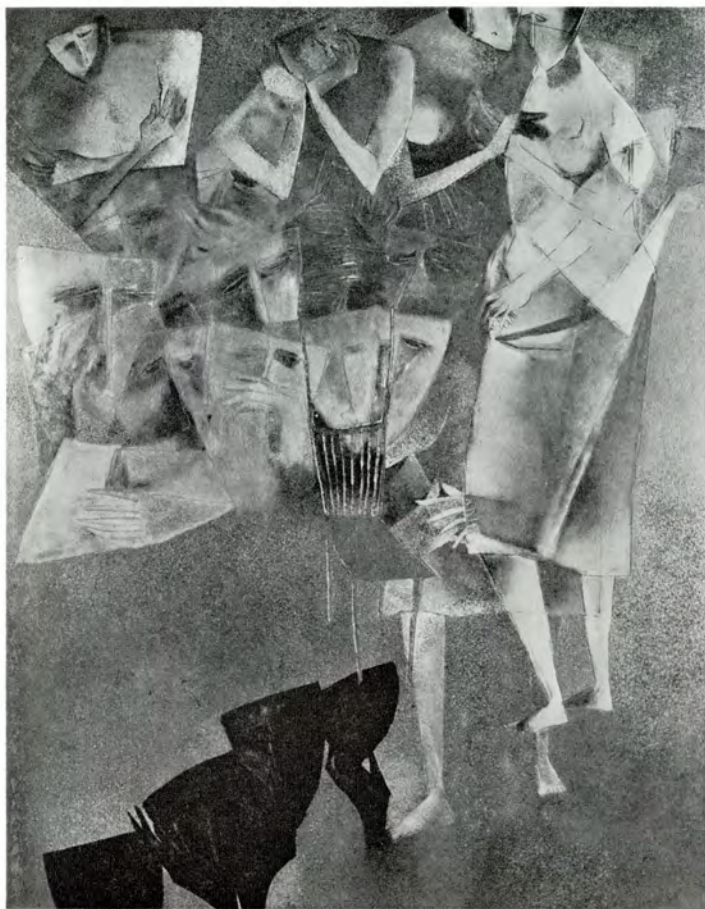


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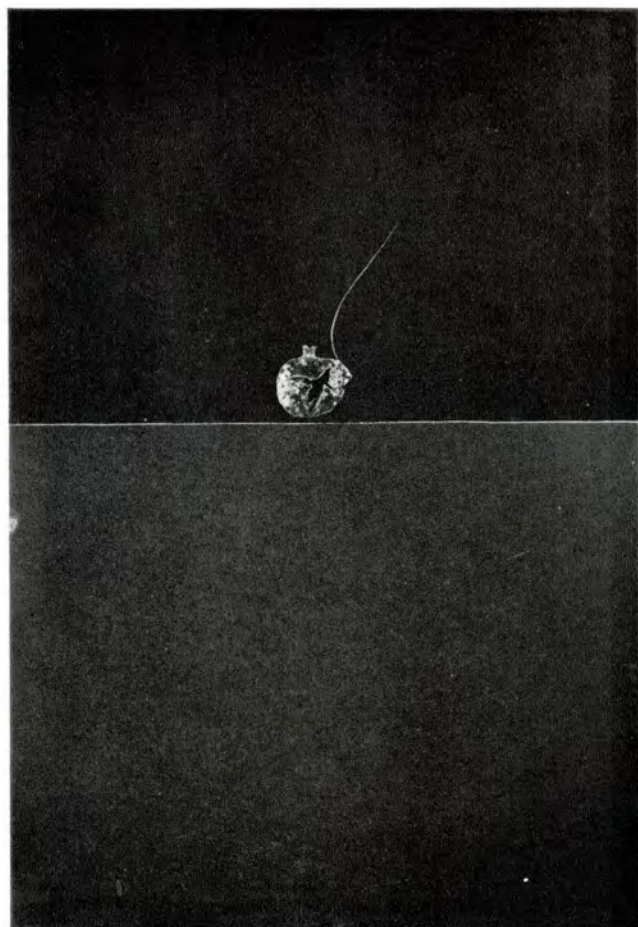
5 Chair of God  
6 Copper flower vase  
7 Travel of dreamer

HARA Norio  
SUGA Ryuji  
FUKUHARA Toru





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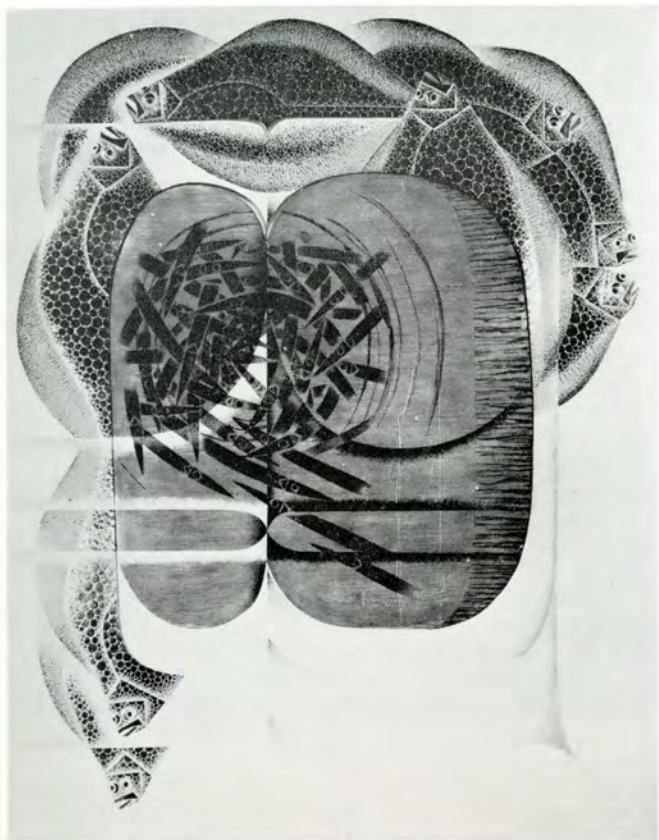


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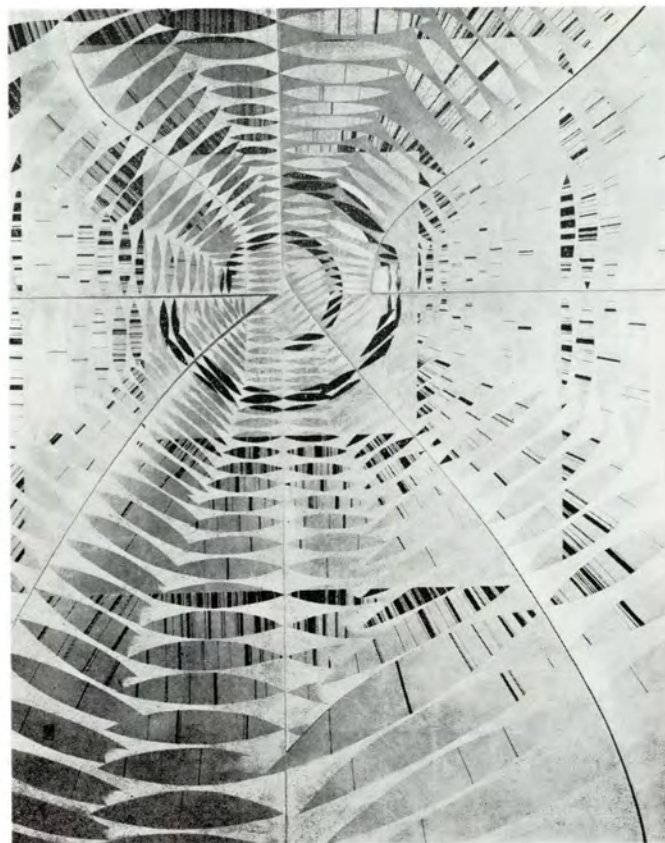
## Lacquer ware

8 Outsider  
9 Pomegranate  
10 Brilliant

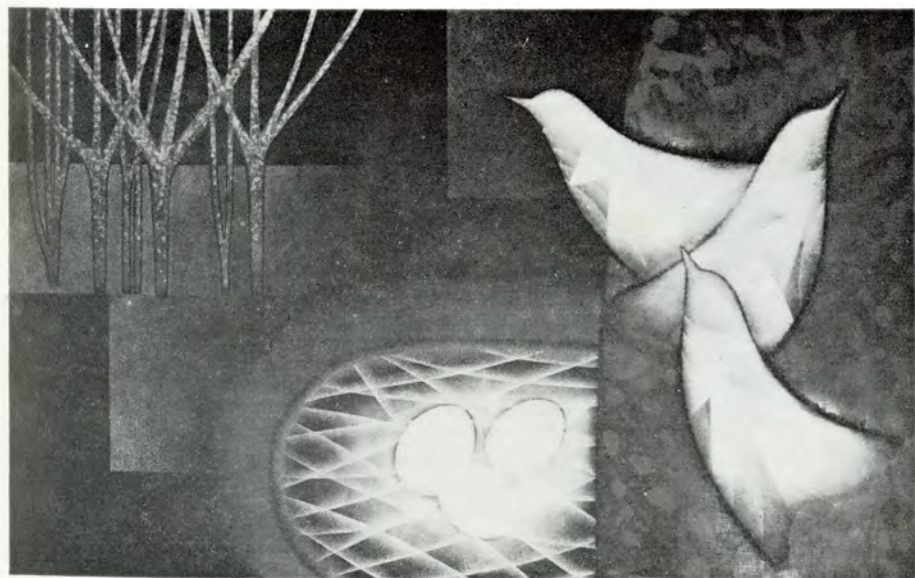
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KADO Isaburo  
NIIZIKI Takahiro



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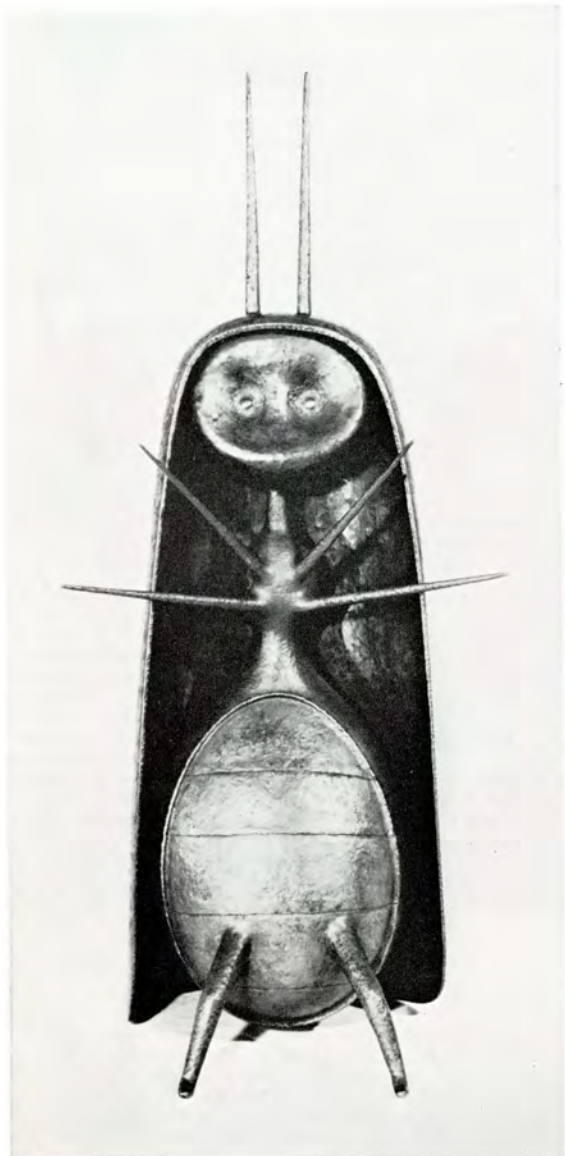
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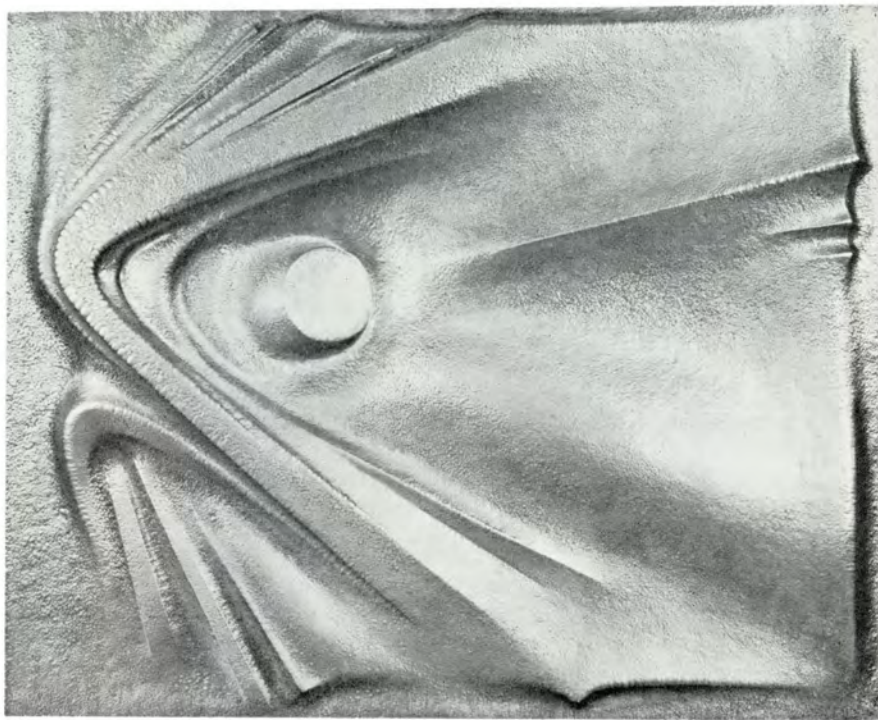
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11 In the flow  
12 Approach, No. 7  
13 In a Wood

ONAGA Tamotsu  
TAKITA Akihisa  
MITANI Gaichi



14



15

## Metalworks

14 Insects Bride  
15 May fantasy  
16 Metal work

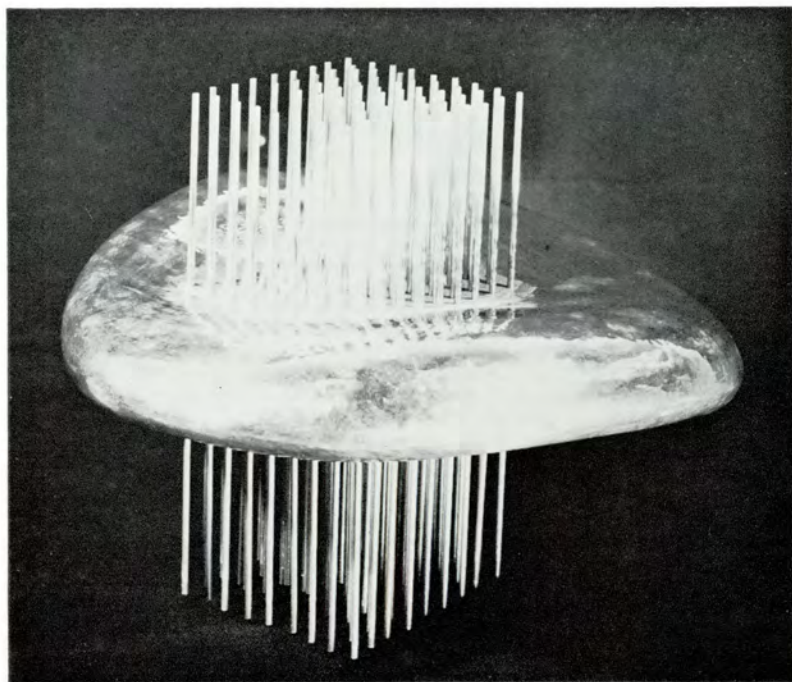
YAMASHITA Tsuneo  
ENDO Choei  
MIYAKE Masamichi



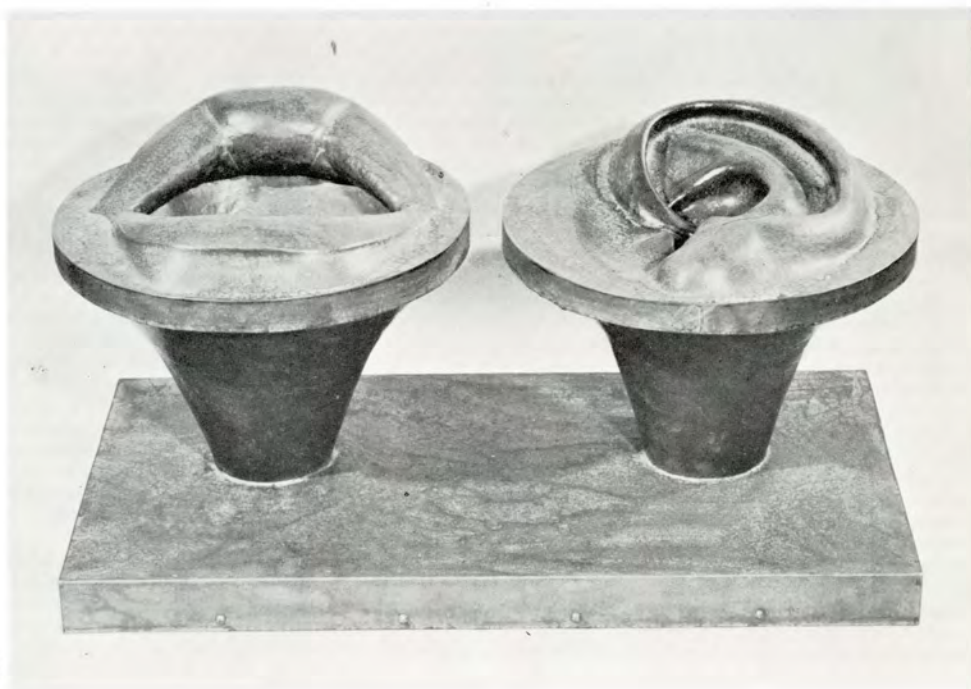
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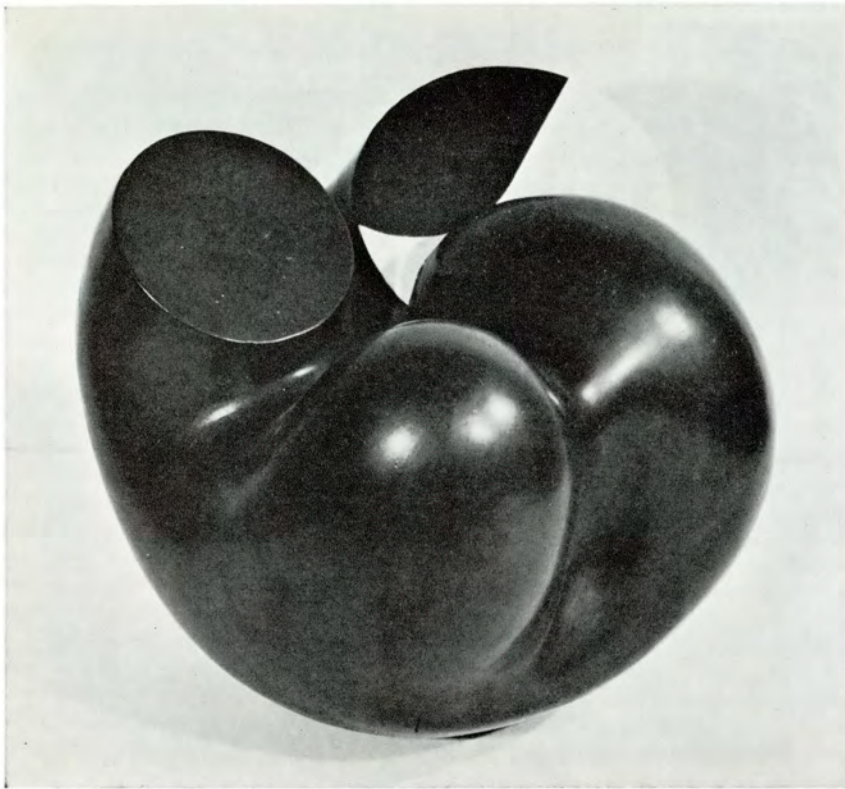


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- 17 Casting jar "Burning Sprout" MIYAZAKI Fusae  
18 Light beauty ITO Moegi  
19 Image of general Mir & Misses HORIGUCHI Mitsuhiro



20

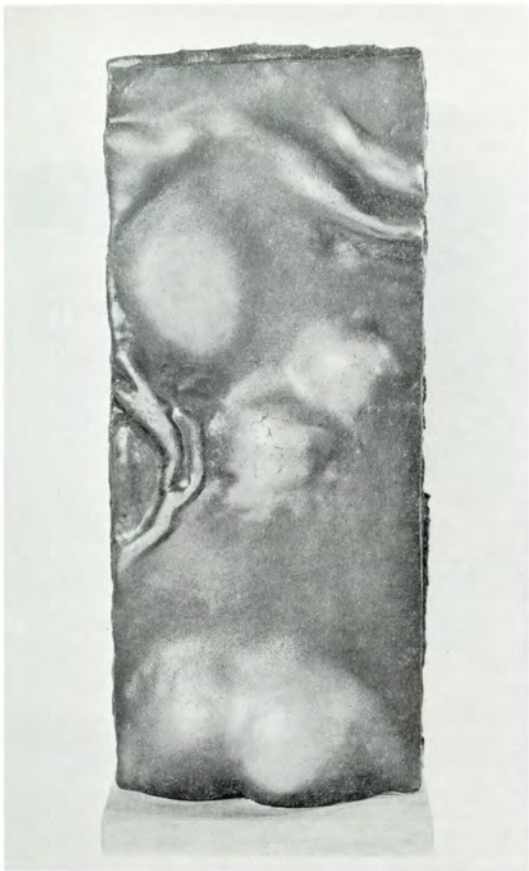
## Ceramics

20 Black and White  
21 White flower vase "Ack"

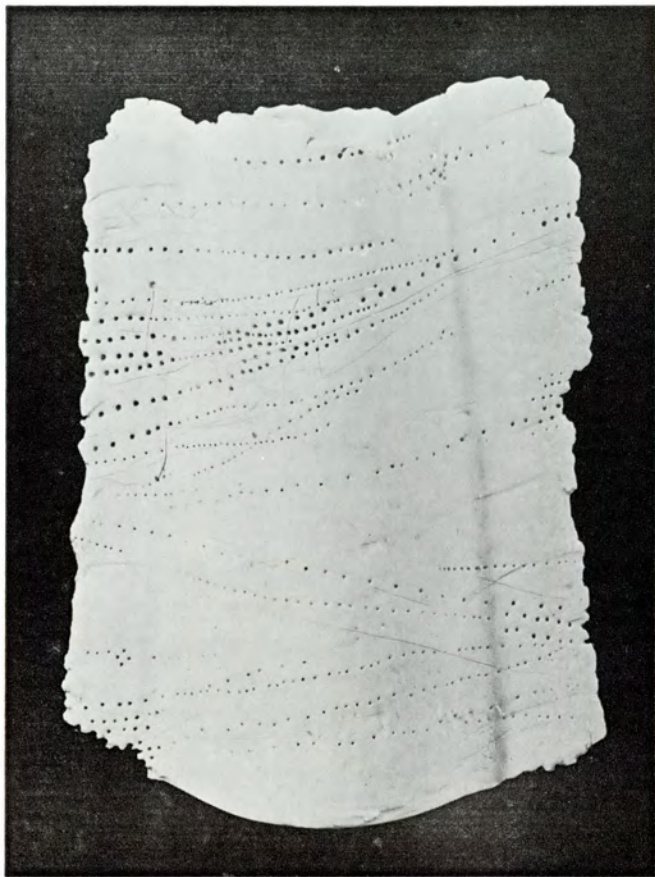
KATO Hirohide  
KAWAI Seitoku

21

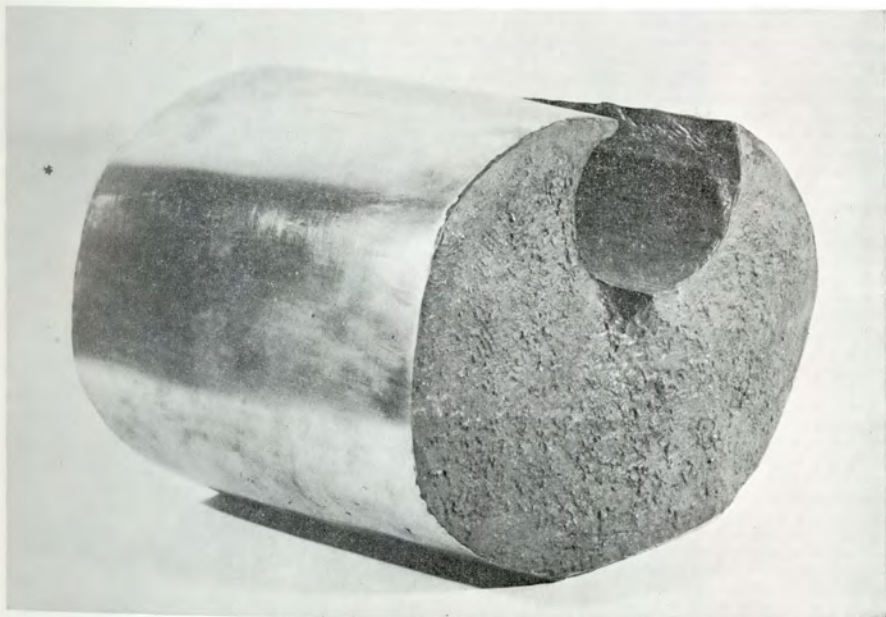




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22 Metal work "Play"  
23 Flower vase  
24 Impression

HAYASHI Katsutoshi  
KATO Kiyoyuki  
HIROSE Kazumasa



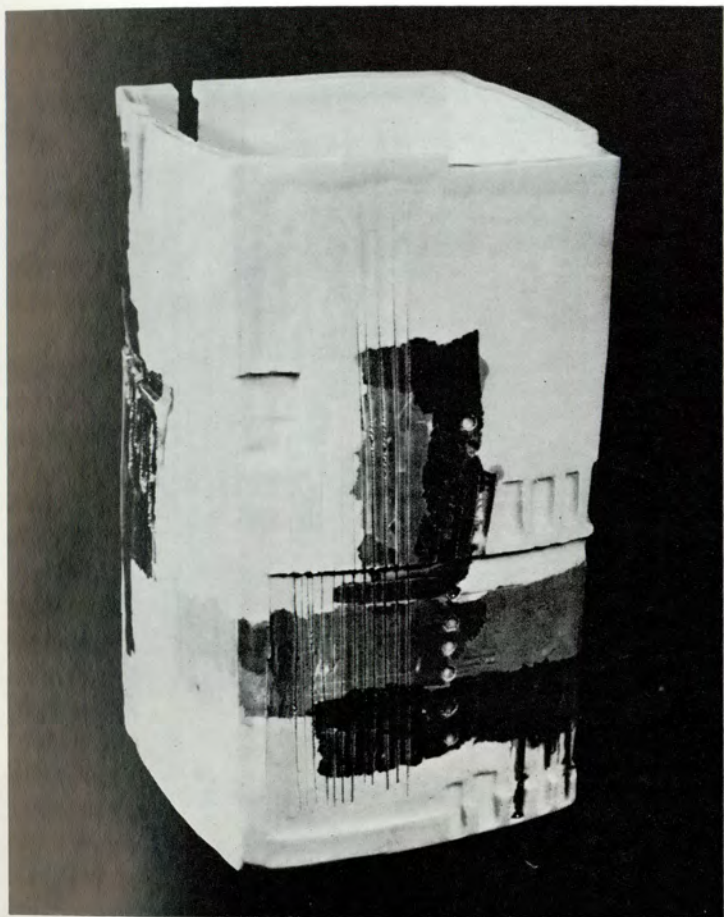
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25 A mask  
26 Chair of king

NAKAZATO Shigetoshi  
SUZUKI Kenji



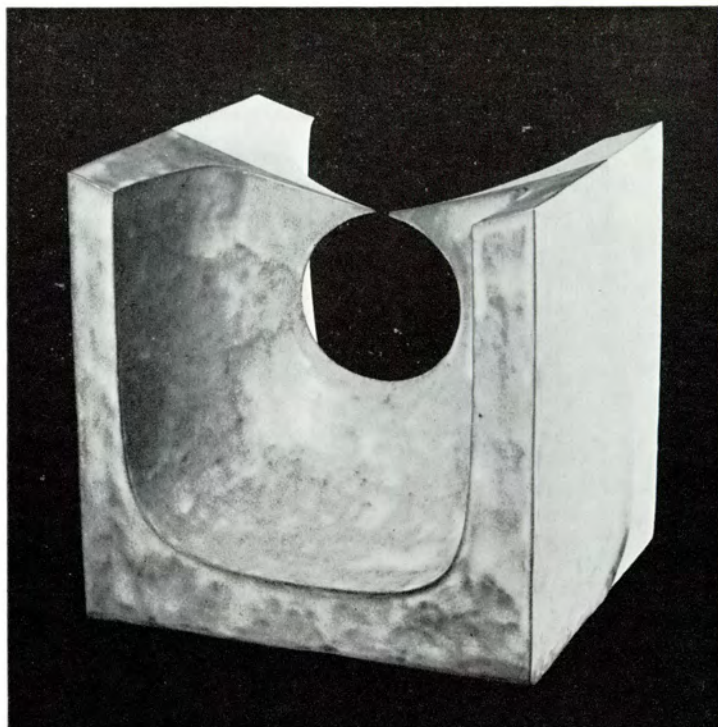
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- 27 Square flower vase  
 28 Ceramic work  
 29 Ceramic work "Sprits"

TSUJI Takehiko  
 YOSHIDA Sohachi  
 WATANABE Tozo

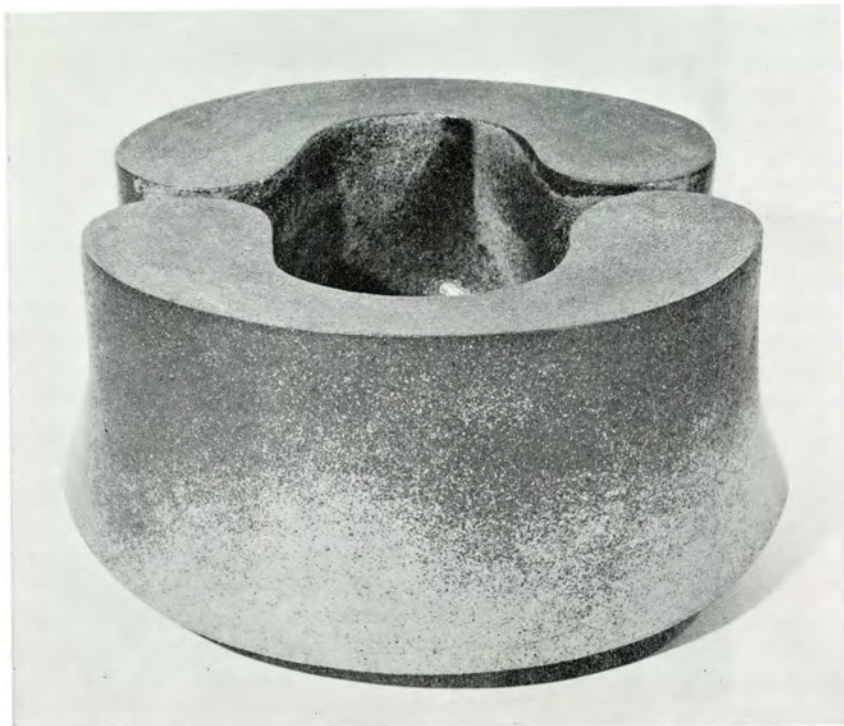


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30 Ceramic flower vase  
31 Ceramic work 2  
32 70-4-2

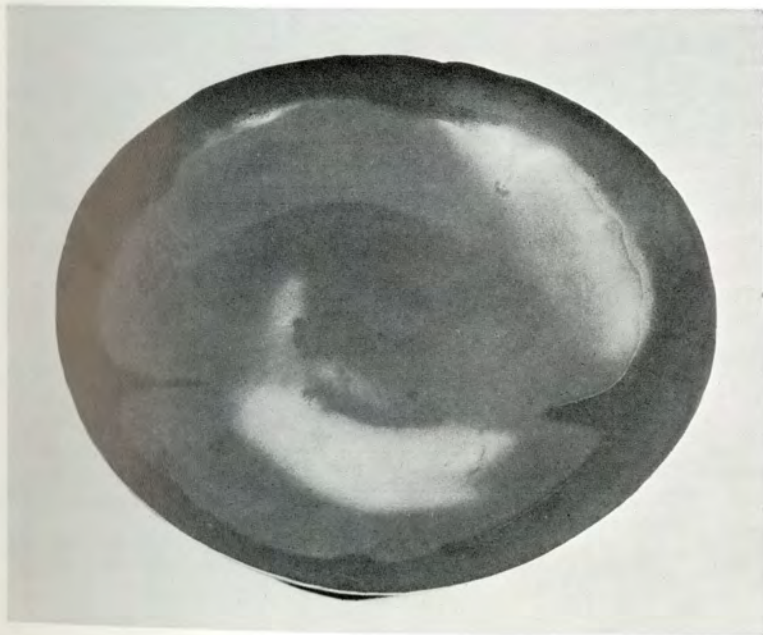
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MIZOGAMI Hideji  
YASUHARA Yoshitaka



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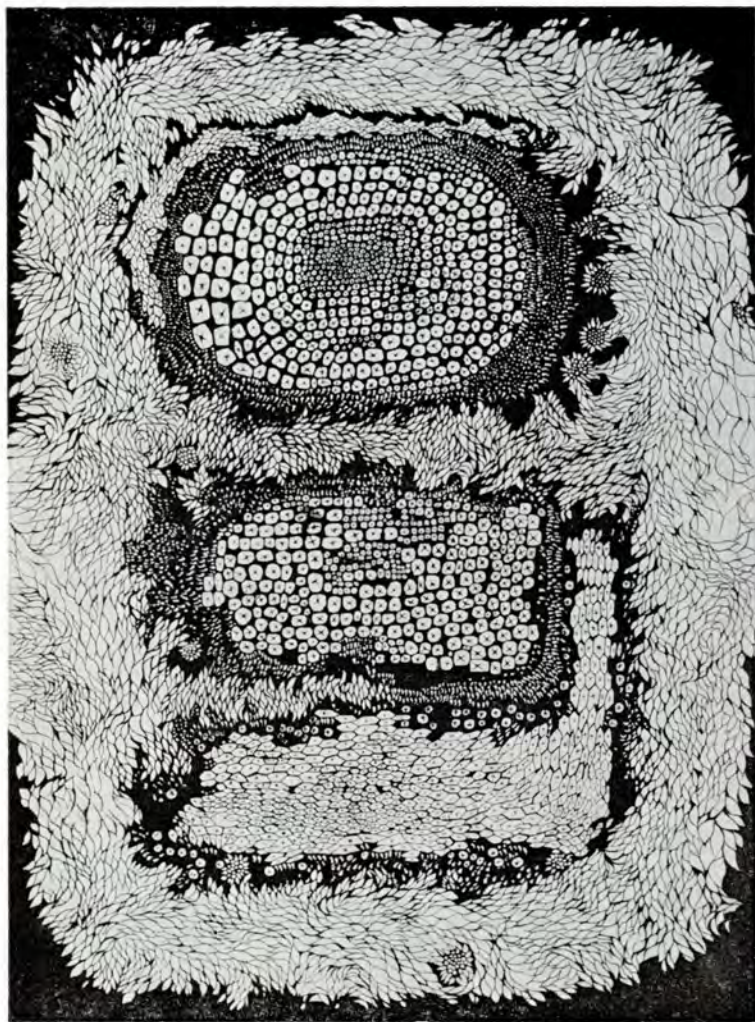
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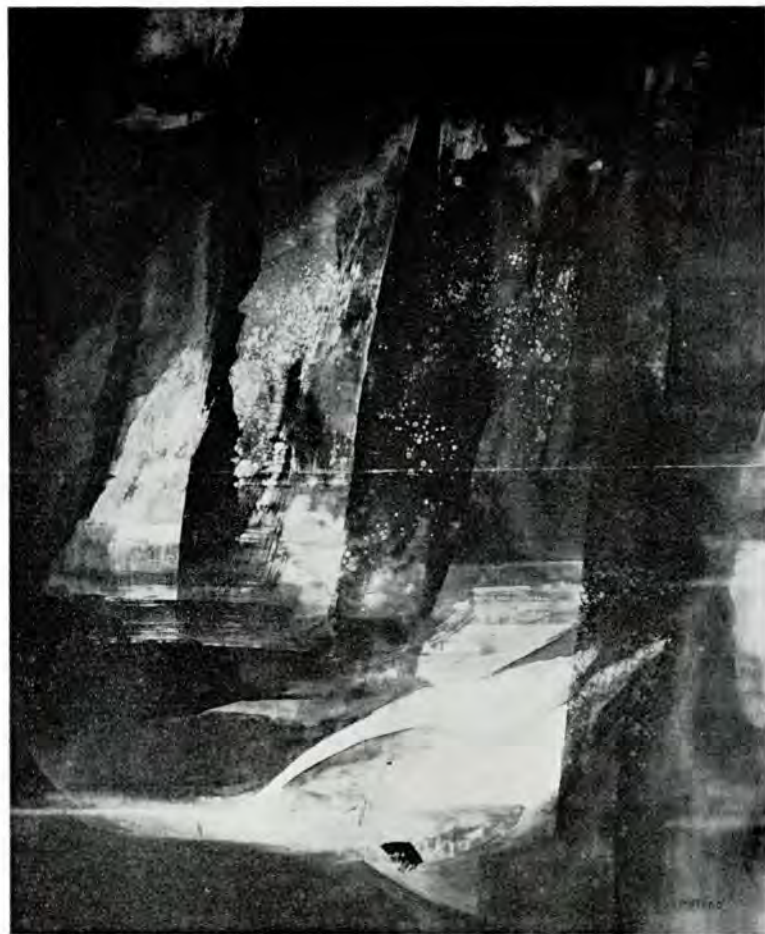
36

- 33 Extension to inside  
34 Burning Jar  
35 Remaining light  
36 Work

MIYASHITA Zenji  
MANDAI Shoji  
YAMAZAKI Akira  
KATO Jun



37



38

## Dyeing & Weaving

37 Growth  
38 Image of flow

HOSODA Kazuko  
FUJIKAWA Motoki



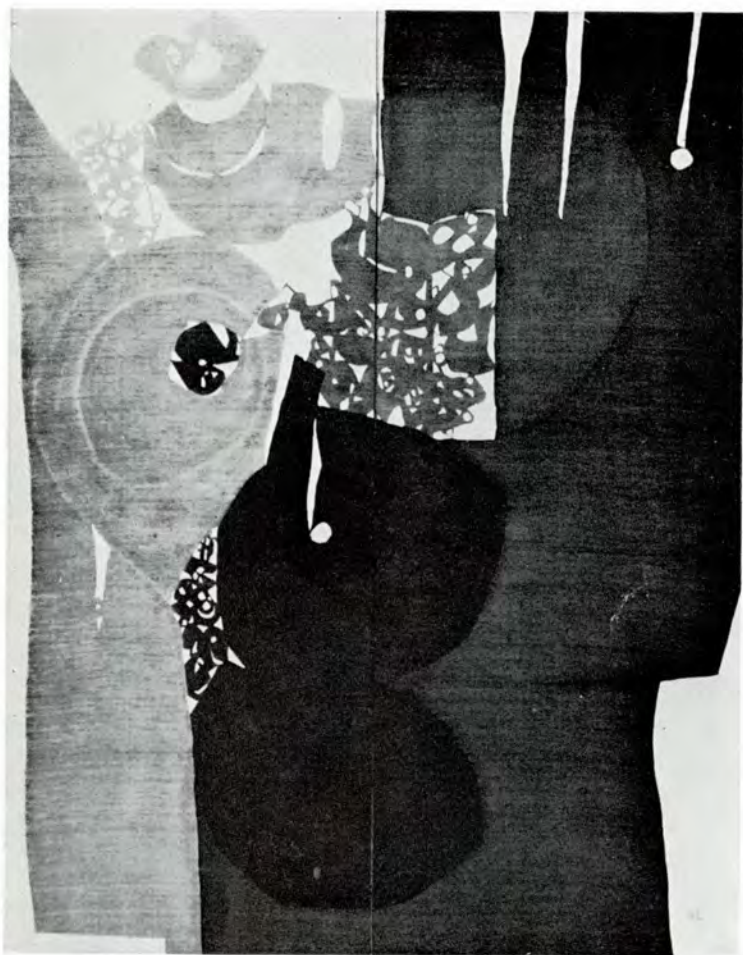
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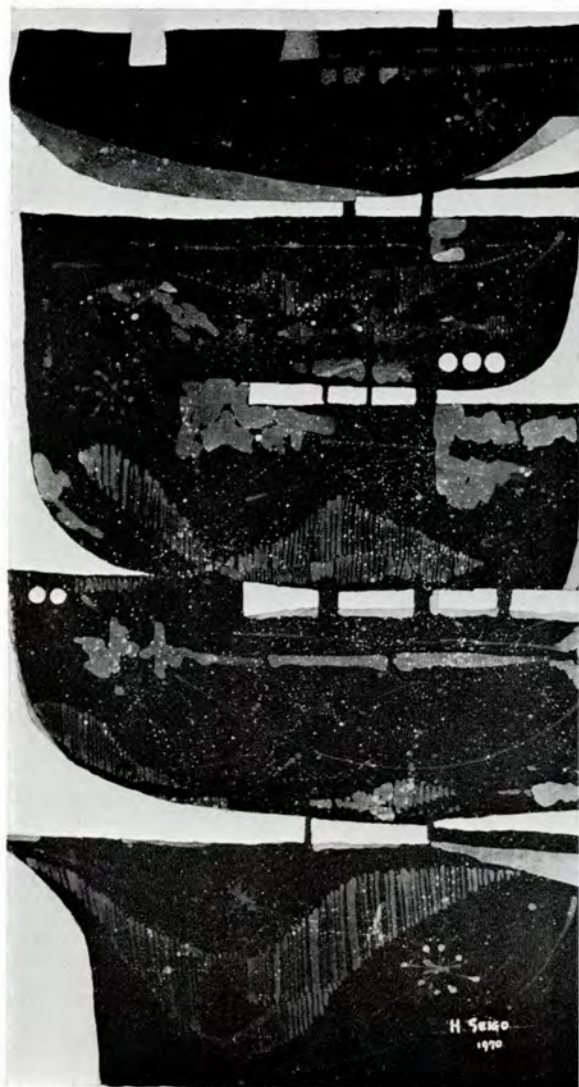
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39 Dyeing work "Surface of water" TAKAHASHI Kanji  
40 Dyeing work "Fly" KIBO Shoichi

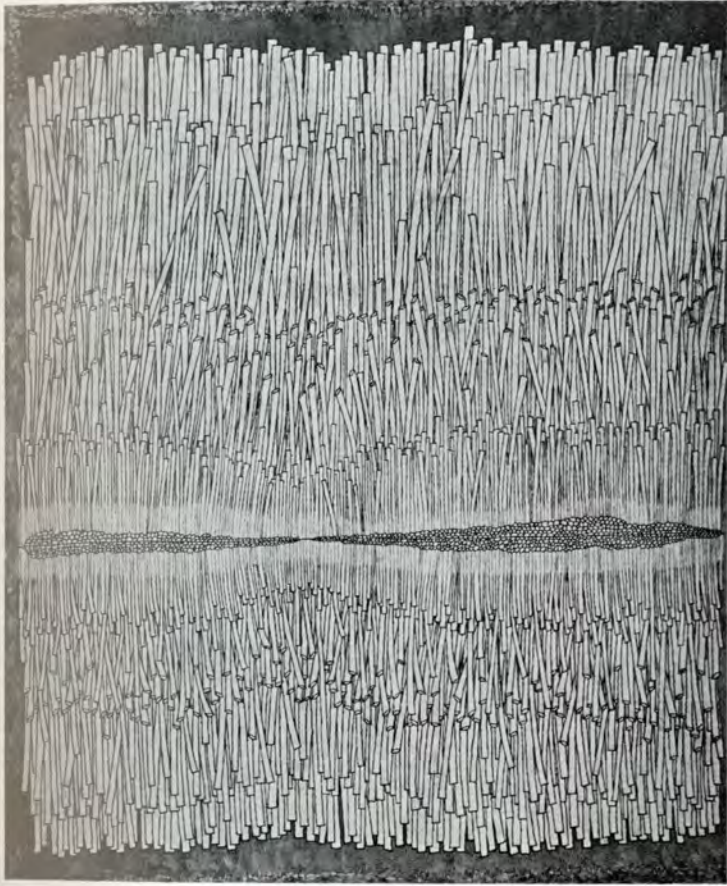


41



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- 41 Dyeing work "Vibrating heat" UEDA Yasue  
42 Pattern of sky HIROKAWA Seigo



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43 Dyeing panel  
44 KAKUTOIN temple

UGAI Hideo  
KAWADA Kan



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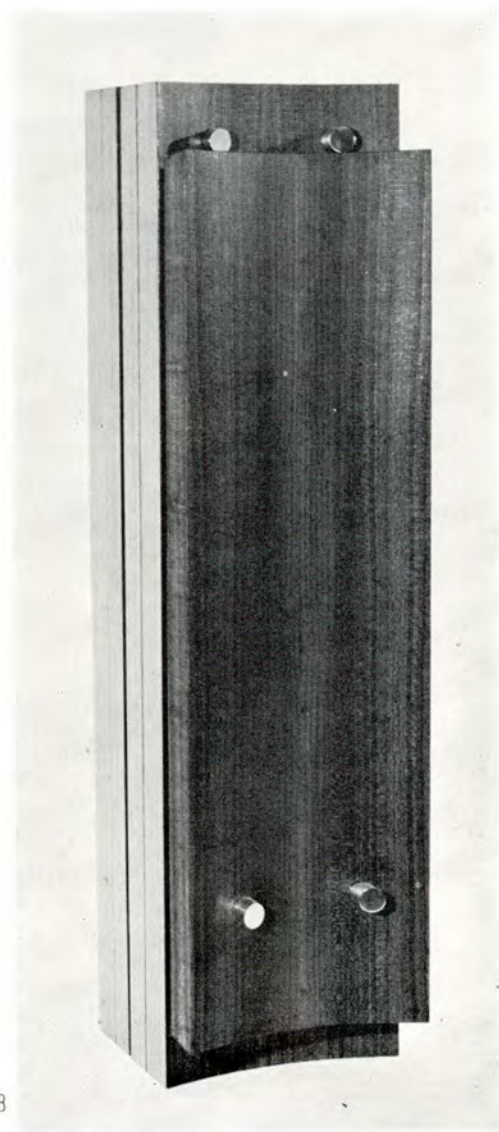
## Wood Works Bamboo Works

45 Dyeing panel "Player"  
46 Panel

UJII Minoru  
TOJIMA Koki



47



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47 Leather work  
48 Memory of Jacalanda™

OKUBO Fukuko  
INO Yoshimi



# MODERN DECORATIVE ARTS ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN

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